News for Immediate Release

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Contacts:

M. Elizabeth Scott, DWR Public Affairs Information Officer .... (916) 653-0979

Jeanne Kuttel, Chief, Geotechnical & Structures
   DWR Division of Engineering .... (916) 653-7336

DWR Releases Draft EIR For
Perris Dam Remediation Project

SACRAMENTO -- The Department of Water Resources (DWR) has released the Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the Perris Dam Remediation Program.

The Draft EIR addresses environmental impacts associated with the project. The document is available for viewing at: http://www.water.ca.gov/lakeperris/

Publication of this Draft EIR marks the beginning of a 45-day public review period during which comments may be directed to:

Tom Barnes, ESA, on behalf of
California Department of Water Resources
Perris Dam Remediation Program
707 Wilshire Boulevard, Ste. 1450
Los Angeles, CA 90017

The public is invited to provide comments and suggestions regarding the project during a meeting to be held February 3, 2010 at 6 p.m. at Harrison Hall, Lake Perris Fairgrounds, 18700 Lake Perris Drive, Perris, CA.

In 2005, DWR identified potential seismic safety risks in the foundation of Perris Dam. While there is no imminent threat to life or property, in the interest of ensuring the maximum public safety, the state lowered the water level of Lake Perris until repairs are made.

Lake Perris is located in northern Riverside County, and is the southernmost State Water Project facility and the southern terminus of the East Branch of the California Aqueduct. The Lake Perris State Recreation Area is one of the state's most popular recreation destinations, with an average annual attendance of 1.1 million visitors.

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The Department of Water Resources operates and maintains the State Water Project, provides dam safety and flood control and inspection services, assists local water districts in water management and water conservation planning, and plans for future statewide water needs.

Contact the DWR Public Affairs Office for more information about DWR's water activities.